

Broad overview:

(Keywords etc)

① First order equations.

Techniques:

- separable eq.s
- integrating factors
- homogeneous eqs ($v = \frac{y}{x}$ sub)
- direction fields.



Concepts:

- nonlinear vs linear
- autonomous eq.s
- existence & uniqueness.

② Second order linear eqs:

Techniques:

- homog. eq $\rightarrow e^{rt}$ sub which gives the char. eq.
(roots: real, complex, distinct \rightarrow repeated, each w/a different sol. type).
- reduction of order
- for particular sol:
 - \rightarrow Variation of params
 - \rightarrow Undetermined coeffs
(guessing wisely).

- Solving IVPs
 - (a) homog sol.
 - (b) part. sol
 - (c) general = homog + part.
 - (d) ONLY THEN solve for constants using ICs.

- Wronskian.

Concepts:

- Wronskian $\stackrel{?}{=}$ linear & independence.
- (existence + uniqueness)
- applications to mechanical vibrations.
 - mass - spring
 - LCR.
- resonance, beats, etc.;
(Forcing vs natural freq.)

- (sketches of solutions) *

③ Laplace Transforms.

Techniques:

- direct computation of transform from integral.
- solving IVPs via Laplace transforms (using tables, in particular for inverting transform).
- convolutions

Concepts:

- Region of validity ($s > a$ etc.) ↗

- exponential order / piecewise continuity (for transform to exist).
 - step functions ~~☆~~^(disc.) (solutions)
 - impulse functions.
- ~~free~~ continuity of resulting solution.

④ Linear Systems.

Techniques:

- homog. eq.
→ solve via e-vals/e-vects.
- inhomog. eq.
→ Variation of Vectors
→ Undet Coefs (Vectors).

→ diagonalization.

- IVPs
- phase plane eq:
- phase portraits. \oplus
(non) \hookrightarrow homog. syst. only.
here.

Concepts:

- analogy to 2nd order linear eq
→ this is a generalization.

⑤ Non linear systems.

Techniques:

- Finding critical points.
- Linearize \rightarrow Jacobian.
- Classify type/stability

of critical points
(by analysing local
linear system.)

(linearize about crit.
point., evals ~~of~~ of
resulting matrix).

- phase portraits
sketching *

(use eigenvectors NEAR
RELATED CRIT POINT ONLY,
nullclines, etc).

Concepts:

- critical point & type /
stability
- almost linear systems.